

00617

1962/10/23

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

M
Action
SS
Info

FROM: Santiago
TO: Secretary of State
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/GC/MP

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DEPARTMENT PASS POLAD CINCARIB, POLAD CINCLANT FOR INFORMATION

Re DEPCIRTEL 700.

Minister of Interior sent for us and gave brief review of internal situation. His approach, as usual, rather placid but he felt that while we may expect certain strikes and demonstrations on Cuba from labor circles and Extreme Left, he believed that at present, in any case, outlook was far from alarming. He somewhat more concerned regarding student reaction and felt that much would depend on keeping Christian-Democrats in line. He said this party very divided on issue but so far had taken no decisions. We understand party council will meet tomorrow to discuss Cuba (and we attempting see Frei and other party personalities in interim). He said that so far there had only been small (200) rather aimless student demonstration last night.

He appreciated our offer to Foreign Minister yesterday provide riot control equipment from Panama if necessary and handed us shopping list prepared by Carabineros. Said he recognized their requests excessive and indicated those items which he believed were reasonable and should have priority. Country Team reviewing list and will transmit our recommendations separately.

KEA:2

COLE

Note: Relayed to CINCARIB POLAD, CINCLANT POLAD 10-23-62, 7:15

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